

Learning and Growth:

Augmenting my German language skills, expanding my cultural awareness and understandings of contemporary German life, and exploring my identity as a global citizen and Ohio State ambassador have proved advantageous in my both my personal and academic growth. The Dresden Summer Language Program has certainly contributed to significant personal development in providing a greater understanding as to how the United States is viewed by European countries, what contemporary German life and culture is like, and how my German language skills could be advanced. The program and Germany itself additionally fostered a conducive environment where I could develop stronger relationships with my peers, break out of my comfort zones, and explore a historically and culturally unique city abroad.



Motivation for Project:

I was drawn to this particular study abroad program because of its diverse learning opportunities as they related to increasing my German language skills, experiencing contemporary German life and culture, and learning about the unique role that Dresden holds within Saxony and Germany as a whole. Considering the multitude of advantages that accompany proficiency in a secondary language, I believed that the program's ability to enhance my German language skills and cultural competency would be advantageous in my pursuit of a career with an international and collaborative focus. Additionally, I believed that advancing these skills would improve my prospective ability to network globally and market emergent therapeutic products in western European markets through my passion towards pharmaceutical sales.

Dresden Summer Language Program

Project Description:

The STEP Signature Project that I participated in was an eight-week academic and language intensive program that focused on providing German language students with an opportunity to improve their language abilities, study the prior and recent history of Dresden and Saxony in general, as well as to experience complete immersion in contemporary Germany life and culture alongside native speakers and locals. The Dresden Summer Language Program additionally permitted students to explore a wide array of historical and cultural sites across all of Germany, in cities ranging from Weimar to Berlin. While based in Dresden at the Technische Universität Dresden (TUD) campus, students were able to strengthen and develop our language skills while engaging with coursework that enhanced our experiential travels.



Transformational Experience:

Through these travels and experiences, I was able to motivate myself outside of my comfort zones and grow tremendously as a person in terms of improving my skills of independence, adaptability, resilience, and confidence. Various experiences had challenged me to seize these skills and further my personal growth while abroad. Despite the short duration of the program, I found myself challenged by the ephemerality of each moment. Through this, I gained a greater appreciation for each experience, living in the moment and cherishing what is happening in the present.

My view of the world was also transformed as I was able to visit various locations throughout the education abroad experience. My travels were not solely within Germany during the program, but additionally I sought to independently explore a variety of other European nations. Navigating many of these countries and indulging in the cultural customs broadened my appreciation and awareness for diversity.



Name: Andrew Capozzi

STEP Project Category: Education Abroad

STEP Faculty Member: Dr. Richard Henricksen

Major: Pharmaceutical Sciences



Favorite Experiences:

It's rather difficult to pinpoint an exceptional experience that supersedes all others during the education abroad experience. The memories that I have made and the experiences that I have come to cherish are innumerable, encompassed by my travels to a variety of locations around Germany as well as abroad in countries such as: the Czech Republic, Poland, Austria, Slovakia, Ireland, Switzerland, and the Netherlands. Through these experiences, I was able to interact with a wide variety of cultures, perceive diverse attributes of each, and explore unique sites of interest. These opportunities allowed for exceptional growth alongside my fellow peers and allowed for my visit to numerous locations that I never anticipated I would visit, such as: the Anne Frank House, Auschwitz, and the Berlin Underground.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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Second-year Transformational
Experience Program